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Agenda item 3 (a)
Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation: follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Abdul Mejid Hussein (Ethiopia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/2003/L.18

World Solidarity Fund

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 55/210 of 20 December 2000, 56/207 of 21 December 2001 and 57/265 of 20 December 2002,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] adopted on 8 September 2000 by heads of State and Government,

[1] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

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Recalling further the Monterrey Consensus,[2] adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[3] as well as the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[4] adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the note of the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the establishment of the World Solidarity Fund,[5]

2. *Endorses* the decision of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to establish the World Solidarity Fund to eradicate poverty and to promote social and human development in the developing countries, while stressing the voluntary nature of the contributions and the need to avoid duplication of existing United Nations funds and encouraging the role of the private sector and individual citizens relative to Governments in funding the endeavours, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

3. *Recognizes* the important potential contribution of the World Solidarity Fund to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,[6] in particular the objective to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people living on less than one dollar a day and the proportion of the people who suffer from hunger;

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[2] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.62.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex.

[4] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[5] A/58/72-E/2003/53.

[6] Internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration.

4. *Takes note* of the setting up, in February 2003 of the World Solidarity Fund as a trust fund of the United Nations Development Programme, subject to the financial rules and regulations as adopted by the Executive Board of United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund;

5. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, the private sector, relevant institutions, foundations and individuals to contribute to the World Solidarity Fund;

6. *Requests* in this regard the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to take further measures to operationalize the World Solidarity Fund by establishing on an urgent basis the high-level committee whose task it is to define the strategy of the Fund, inter alia, to mobilize the financial resources to enable it to start its activities in the field of poverty alleviation;

7. *Also requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to take all necessary measures to publicize the World Solidarity Fund and to raise awareness of its existence among the public and private sectors as well as civil society;

8. *Invites* developing countries, as soon as resources are made available to the Fund, to identify indicative projects to be submitted for financing by the World Solidarity Fund and requests the United Nations Development Programme to cooperate with national authorities in this regard;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to request the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to submit a progress report on the operationalization of the World Solidarity Fund to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2004.

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